

Florida Motor Vehicle, Motorcycle and Low Speed Vehicle Manufacturer, Importer and Distributor License Requirements



State of Florida
Department of Highway Safety
and Motor Vehicles

Florida Licensing Requirements for Manufacturers, Importers and Distributors of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles, and Low Speed Vehicles

The Dealer License Section, Bureau of Issuance Oversight regulates the license issuance for motor vehicle, motorcycle, or Low Speed Vehicles manufacturers, distributors and importers license applicants.

The Florida law requires motor vehicle, motorcycle, and Low Speed Vehicle manufacturers, importers and distributors to be licensed by the Department in order to conduct business in the State of Florida.

Sections 320.60-320.70, Florida Statutes, provide information regarding the licensing of manufacturers, importers and distributors.

Applicants must complete and submit form [HSMV 84256](#) along with the required documents and fee to the Department.

Application form [HSMV 84256](#) can be downloaded from the Department's website at <http://flhsmv.gov/dmv/forms/BFO/84256.pdf>.

A check list of required documents is attached to the application form [HSMV 84256](#) for various types of manufacturers, importers and distributors license categories.

It is important for all business entities to have an active registration of their business name and fictitious name(s) (if applicable) with the

Division of Corporations to be able to legally conduct business in Florida. (Access at www.sunbiz.org). A copy of this registration must be submitted with their license application to the Department.

All manufacturers must be registered with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (www.NHTSA.org) and meet their requirements for:

- Title 49 CFR part 565 (Vehicle Identification Number Requirements),
- Title 49 CFR part 566 (Manufacturer Identification) and
- Title 49 CFR part 567 (Certification)

This certification label constitutes the manufacturers certification that the motor vehicle "conforms to all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards in effect, on the date of manufacture."

Pursuant to section [320.645](#), Florida Statutes, a licensed manufacturer, importer or distributor can wholesale through franchised dealers who must be approved and licensed by the Department or retail by engaging in direct sale and meet the licensing requirements as a franchise dealer.

Licensed manufacturers, importers and distributors who opt to wholesale through franchise dealers, must establish the dealers as per the requirements of section [320.642](#), Florida Statutes. A letter of intent to establish or relocate dealers with a check for \$77.50 made in favor of DHSMV must be submitted to the Department so that the notice can be published in the Florida Administrative Weekly. Details of this procedure can be found in the Dealer Handbook at <http://flhsmv.gov/dmv/DealerHandbook.pdf>

Manufacturers, importers or distributors of motorcycles must meet the licensing requirements of the Department regardless of the engine displacement of the unit.

A franchise dealer license is required in order to sell electric motorcycles above 2 bhp, 1492 watts or gas powered motorcycles with an engine displacement above 50 cc's.

A person is not required to be licensed as a dealer if they sell electric motorcycles with an engine displacement of 2bhp or less, 1492 watts or less or gas powered motorcycles with an engine displacement of 50 cc's or less.

A list of licensed distributors for motorcycles with an engine displacement 50cc or less is posted on line at the Department's website at http://flhsmv.gov/dmv/bulletins/2012/Motorcycle_List.htm for the convenience of the Tax Collector's Offices.

Florida Licensing Requirements for Manufacturers, Importers and Distributors of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles, and Low Speed Vehicles

Licensed manufacturers, importers and distributors must renew their license annually with the Department. Licenses expire on September 30, each year. The Department sends renewal notices via e-mail on July 14, each year. It is important for manufacturers, importers and distributors to renew their license timely, since non-renewal could halt the business of the franchise dealers associated with them.

Licensed manufacturers, importers and distributors can add new line-makes to their licenses any time by submitting required documents to the Department for approval. A checklist of these documents is attached with form [HSMV 84256](#).

IMPORTANT: No shipment or sale of motor vehicles, motorcycles or low speed vehicles can be done before the manufacturer, importer or distributor and the associated dealers are properly licensed as per requirements of section 320.642, Florida Statutes. Unauthorized sales to unlicensed dealers is a violation of section 320.642, Florida Statutes.

LICENSE FEE SCHEDULE

License Type	Original License Fee	Renewal Fee
Motor Vehicle Manufacturer (MV)	\$300.00	\$100.00
Motor Vehicle Importer (MI)	\$300.00	\$100.00
Motor Vehicle Distributor (MD)	\$300.00	\$100.00

LICENSING PERIOD

License Type	Licensing Period
Motor Vehicle Manufacturer (MV)	Oct 1-Sept 30
Motor Vehicle Importer (MI)	Oct 1-Sept 30
Motor Vehicle Distributor (MD)	Oct 1-Sept 30

CONVERSION TABLE FOR MOTORCYCLES WATTS-BHP-CC's

Engine Output in Watts	Engine Output in bhp	Engine Displacement in cc's
1492 Watts or less	2.0 bhp	or 50 cc's less
Greater than 1492 Watts	Greater than 2.0 bhp	Greater than 50 cc's

USEFUL LINKS:

Florida Statutes: www.flsenate.gov

Florida's Dealer Handbook: <http://flhsmv.gov/dmv/DealerHandbook.pdf>

How Do I?: <http://flhsmv.gov/dmv/HowDoI/ManuImpDist.pdf>

Frequently Asked Questions for Florida Manufacturers, Importers, and Distributors: http://flhsmv.gov/dmv/FAQ_MID.pdf

Application Form HSMV 84256: <http://flhsmv.gov/dmv/forms/BFO/84256.pdf>

Valuable information on licensing procedures and requirements can be accessed at the Department's website at <http://www.flhsmv.gov/html/titlinf.html> and selecting "Dealer, Manufacturer, Distributor and Importer Information."

For further assistance, please call the Dealer License Section at 850-617-3003 (press 1).



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Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Dealer License Section
Neil Kirkman Building, A312, MS#65
2900 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0600
Phone: 850-617-3003 (prompt #1)
Fax: 850-617-5217
www.flhsmv.gov